FIRST STATE CAPITOL.

BIRTHPLACE OF WISCONSIN IS STILL STANDING.

Erection of Imposing Structure at Madison Recalls Humble Building Where Territorial Administration Was Organized.

Madison, Wis.—Wisconsin's new capitol will be a sumptuous structure compared with the building the state fathers occupied when they gathered in legislative session in 1848. The development of the great commonwealth is shown in the required amplification of its statehouse. The legislature of Wisconsin has far outgrown the modest little building which at the time of its erection was considered the finest of its kind. It has demands that the enlarged capitol could not meet, and so the old will give place to the new.

Work on the new structure is being rapidly pushed, and at the meeting of December 27 specimens of the best grades of building material for the outside walls were submitted by Architect Post.

In the early days many towns were anxious to have the capitol building located within their limits, and many a bitter contest was waged over its location. None of the seventeen applicants succeeded in securing it. A town was laid out especially adapted to its needs, a site unrivaled in natural beauty by any Wisconsin town.

The location of the present state capitol was selected by James D. Doty in 1836, and in December of that year when the legislature convened at Belmont, an act was passed to establish the statehouse at Madison. There were many reasons why this site was selected, and chief among them was the central location. Milwaukee, Green Bay and the lead mining region in the southwestern part of the state were the principal centers of immigration and of activity, so in selecting Madison the distance from any one of the points would be about equal. The Wisconsin territory had belonged to the Michigan tract. It was partitioned and organized at Mineral Point July 4, 1836, into the territory of Wisconsin. The first legislative body met at Belmont and there was a long struggle as to where the capitol of the new state would be permanently located. Seventeen towns desired it and each had inducements to offer. Fond du Lac, Dubuque, Portage, Helena, Milwaukee, Racine, Belmont, Mineral Point, Green Bay, Platteville, Cassville, Belleview, Koshkonong, Wisconsinapolis, Wisconsin City, Peru and Madison. Some of these towns were, as yet, not laid out, but their promoters had hopes for them if the capitol was erected at the point advocated.

It was decided that the permanent structure would be at Madison and a commission consisting of James D Doty, A. A. Bird and John O'Neil was appointed by the government to begin work at once. On July 4, 1837, the cornerstone was laid with ceremonies appropriate to the occasion. The legislature of Wisconsin met for the first time at Madison in 1838, but, as the capitol building was not at that time in a suitable condition for occupation the session was held in the basement of the American house, where the annual message of the governor, Henry Dodge, was delivered. During 1836 and 1837 the national government appropriated $40,000 for the capitol building, Dane county $4,000, and the territorial legislature about $16,000, making the complete cost $60,000. The building, when finished, was a substantial structure, which in architectural

First Legislative Hall of Wisconsin.

design and convenience of arrangement compared favorably with capitols of the adjacent states.

The building was enlarged from time to time to provide for the growing wants of the state.

In 1904 a portion of the north wing and the greater part of the interior of the capitol was destroyed by fire.

The first legislative hall of Wisconsin is still standing and there are many earnest people in the state who are pleading for its restoration, or at least, to have it saved from the desecration it is at present subjected to At the time when the first legislative body sat in conference, the building was a story and a half frame house, battlement fronted. It was at the meeting in this humble place that the territorial administration was organized, the territory divided into counties, county seats established, ways and means of borrowing money discussed. This birthplace of the great state of Wisconsin must always be of interest to its citizens, who can never forget the wisdom and forethought of the pioneers who, meeting to establish a great commonwealth, laid the foundations for the good of posterity. The old building at Belmont is perhaps nothing more to many than any other old landmark, but to the earnest-minded it stands for something more.

FORT FOR CITIZEN SOLDIERS

HISTORIC M'HENRY TO BE USED BY MARYLAND MILITIA.

National Guard Secure Lease of Place Which Is to Be Deserted by the Federal Forces Next April.

It is so often the privilege of citizen soldiers to come into possession of a fort and parade grounds which fairly thrill and pulsate with historic memories of loyalty and devotion to the country's flag and the nation's safety and honor, but such is the case with the national guard of the state of Maryland, which has through the efforts of the citizens of Baltimore and Adjt. Gen. Clinton L. Riggs, of the militia organization, secured a five-year lease of Fort McHenry after it is abandoned by the war department on April 1, 1907. Thus will the old fort made famous in the song of the "Star-Spangled Banner," of Francis Scott Key, be preserved, and the stars and stripes will continue to float from the old ramparts as they did on that memorable September morning of 1814, when the rising sun, piercing the smoke of battle during the bombardment of the fort by the British, disclosed them to the delighted view of Key, imprisoned on one of the British warships, and inspired him to write "The Star-Spangled Banner."

The land of which Fort McHenry is a part was taken up in 1661 under the name of Whetstone Point, under patent by Charles Gorsuch, a member of the Society of Friends. Its importance as a military fort was early recognized, and in 1775 it had been strengthened by the construction of a water battery, then impregnable, honey-combed by magazines and secret underground passageways. This battery still stands intact, facing the water approaches of the city from the south. The following year, in preparation of a visit from the British, a boom was constructed between Whetstone Point and the Lazaretto, and a great chain suspended by 21 sunken bay vessels was stretched across the entrance to the harbor. The fort remained under the control of the state until 1793, when it was turned over to the national government, and named in honor of Col. James McHenry, of Maryland, who was secretary of war in Washington's cabinet.

In 1794, with funds raised by public subscription, a great five star fort of brick, cement and earth was erected, whose dungeons in the civil war became the prison of some of the most prominent citizens of Baltimore whose loyalty to the union was suspected and whose activities were feared.

For more than 130 years the stalwart ramparts of the fort have kept a tireless vigil. In times of peace they have gleamed resplendent in their cloak of green. In times of war they have frowned defiance at the foe.

The old fort is not so close to Baltimore that an invading force, safely out of reach of its guns, might easily bombard Baltimore at will. New forts more suitably located and with modern equipments have been constructed to cope with the great war

Entrance to Old Fort McHenry.

ships of the day, and the usefulness of the old fort, even as an inner defense, has passed away absolutely. But it will live in history, linked with the national song.

On September 13, 1814, after the sacking of Washington, the British fleet came up the bay, having on board the troops under the veteran Gen. Ross. It was the latter's boast that he would eat his supper "in Baltimore or hell." He never got to Baltimore, having been killed at North Point, where he landed in the early part of the battle.

Francis Scott Key, a distinguished son of Maryland, had on the evening before the bombardment gone on the American cartel ship Minden under a flag of truce to effect the release of some captured friends. He and his vessel were detained in order that he might not take back information of the lively preparations he witnessed for the bombardment. The Minden was anchored in sight of the fort.

While the bombardment raged in the night and early morning, he began to compose the inspiring lines.

A REMARKABLE PUPIL.

ONLY EIGHT YEARS OLD BUT KNOWS FOUR LANGUAGES.

Is Already a High School Student at Brookline, Mass., and Well Versed in Higher Mathematics — Comes of Bright Family.

Boston.—Brookline, Mass., thinks it possesses the youngest high school pupil in the United States, as well as the most remarkable, in many ways.

The boy is only eight years old. His name is William James Sidis, the only son of Dr. Boris Sidis, a prominent Russian-American physician.

He is master of four languages, is an adept in higher mathematics and is able to do calculations far in advance of his classmates, all of whom are considerably older. The prodigy is regarded with awe by school associates and with wonder by his teachers.

More wonderful still is the fact that this eight-year-old boy is devising a simplified system of advanced English grammar, and has also devised a new system of doing logarithms.

Under the leadership of Prof. George I. Aldrich, as superintendent, the Brookline schools have attained a high rank in the educational system of Massachusetts, and the requirements as to scholarship for admission to the high school are, as a rule, rigidly lived up to.

So much, however, was known of the mental development of young Sidis that rules were waived, after the matter had been thoroughly discussed between Superintendent Aldrich, Dr. Sidis, Prof. William James, of Harvard, and other prominent educators, and little William was allowed to enter without many of the prescribed formalities.

He did, however, undergo a rather severe private "exam" before Superintendent Aldrich and the principal, but he convinced them in a few moments that he was eligible, so far as scholarship went. To test the lad's quickness at figures he was asked to multiply 12 by 12 by 12, and gave the correct answer in a flash.

"Where is my boy going to stop?" repeated Dr. Sidis, when asked the question. "I do not know. He took to books almost from the cradle. Long before other children are able to master the alphabet on wooden blocks he was speaking and reading good English.

"At first his mother and I were alarmed at his wonderful precocity, but the boy was normal in every respect, perfectly sound and healthy and a child in everything but his mental development.

"Still, he isn't a weakling, physically, by any means. We have looked to that, as well as to his mental development. He exercises regularly, and spends a certain time out in the air. Of course, he has to wear glasses, but that is to protect his eyesight from possible harm.

Willie's classmates in the high school are boys of almost twice his years and size. His feet do not reach the floor from his seat, and his childish face is noticeable in the classroom.

Physics are a second-year study, but he takes them now with the sophomores, and it is expected by his teachers that he will be advanced to that class in all the studies before many months of the school term are over.

But his activities do not end with the schoolroom. At home, after school hours, he is busy with his lessons for

William James Sidis.
(Eight-Year-Old Boy Whose Attainments Amaze His Teachers.)

the next day. As might be expected, they are soon accomplished. Then Master Sidis takes up work on a system of advanced English grammar which he is arranging, and which his father and other educators believe has the merit of greater simplicity than any present system.

As a side issue, he indulges in some astronomical calculations, or he may do a few logarithms, of which he has devised a new system, or he may take a shy at something in the study line equally foreign to the nature of the average boy of eight years.

William comes naturally by his bright mentality. His father was for seven years assistant in psychology at the New York Pathological institute, and for two years director of the Psycho-Pathological bospital, of the New York infirmary, and has made a study of mentality of all kinds. His book, "Mutlipie Personality," opened up a new field in medical science and psychology to popular view. Mrs. Sidis is a highly educated woman.

Far Famed Yosemite Valley.

PLACED UNDER THE PROTECTING CARE OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

Future Generations Will Thus Be Assured of Beholding the Wonders of Nature's Strange Moods.

Future generations who will visit the Yosemite valley and marvel at the wonderful beauty and grandeur of this garden spot will be grateful to the federal government, by whose act in the year 1906 this spot in the great state of California was preserved as a perpetual government reservation. With the taking over of the "mysterious" valley," as it used to be called, new boundary lines have been surveyed, and within three months the hitherto tedious stage journey over the mountains will have given place to the trolley line which enters the valley through a canyon at its western end, and next spring the tourists who visit the wonderful place will be able to make the trip comfortably by trolley—the requisite electricity for which will be furnished by water power.

The reservation, as now officially outlined, is 32 miles in width, from east to west, and 40 miles long from north to south. But the valley itself is only six miles long by half a mile in width. It is sunk just about one mile vertically below the general level of the adjacent region, resembling a gigantic trough of irregular shape, hollowed out in the mountains. Nearly in the center of the state of California, the Yosemite is 155 miles from San Francisco, as the crow flies—a little south of east.

In early days the whites in that part of California had a good deal of trouble with the Indians, settlers being murdered occasionally, and various outrages committed. It was learned that the savages had some sort of retreat far up in the mountains—a natural stronghold, in which they deemed themselves safe from pursuit or attack—and, curiosity on the subject being excited, a military expedition was organized to explore the region and drive out the Indians.

Under the guidance of an old chief, Tenaya, whose name is perpetuated in a beautiful lake between Mount Hoffmann and Cathedral peak, the party finally reached the valley, whose wonders they were first of civilized human beings to behold. They killed some of the Indians and made peace. Nevertheless, not long afterward, in 1852, a party of miners was attacked by redskins in the valley, two of them being slain near Bridal Veil meadow. Another expedition followed, more Indians were killed, and the rest were driven out, being compelled to take refuge with a tribe of Monos on the east side of the Sierras. But trouble followed: the fugitives stole horses from the Monos, fled to the Yosemite, were overtaken, and in a battle were almost entirely exterminated.

In 1856 the first pleasure travel to the Yosemite began, and a trail entering the valley from the south side was opened. The first house was built in that year, opposite Yosemite falls. The whole region was originally part of the public domain belonging to the government of the United States, but the government gave the valley to California, though retaining possession of an extensive surrounding area, which, together with the valley, has been known for many years as the Yosemite park.

The word Yosemite means grizzly bear. In the valley when the whites first came, there were, it is said, nine villages, comprising about 500 souls. These people were of the Miwok, who were much the largest nation in California, their ancient dominion extending over a consirerable portion of the state. The mountain valleys in those days were thinkly peopled, and along the rivers, which were full of fish, numerous villages were scattered. But they were very primitive savages, both sexes and all ages going entirely naked. Their descendants to-day are commonly known as Digger, and every autumn they gather, in and about this valley, quantities of acorns, which are their chief food supply, and which they store in curious cylindrical receptacles of basket-work fastened on posts or in the forks of trees.

Inheritance.

Mr. Gadd—Does your boy take after you, or his father?

Mrs. Gabb—He takes after his father. You never can believe a word he says.—N. Y. Weekly.

Woman on Hospital Board.

Unique Distinction Held bp Miss Bullard of Virginia.

Richmond, Va.—Dr. Irene B. Bullard of Radford, recently appointed by the general hospital board as third assistant physician at the Eastern State

Dr. Irene B. Bullard.
(Southern Girl Who Has Had An Unusual Career.)

Hospital for the insane at Williamsburg, is the only woman physician in the state and probably in the south holding a responsible official position under a state government in a professional capacity as a doctor of medicine. Dr. Bullard, who is yet in her twenties, looks younger than her years. Her social standing is so high and her beauty so marked that she could long since have blossomed into a belle, but she would have none of it. She has been a bookworm from a child, devouring subjects far beyond her years, while other girls were yet with their dolls and their toys.

Dr. Bullard graduated from Wadsworth high school, Radford, where she was born and reared, at an early age. She attended a school at Madison, Wis., afterward taking the professional course at Farmville, teaching three years in the public schools of Pulaski after her graduation. But the science of medicine, to which the child had been attracted, now lured the girl, and, broadening her studies as her years advanced, she in time obtained her degree as a doctor of medicine. To achieve this end she became a trained nurse, practicing her profession at the bedside of her patients for several years with great success.

Dr. Bullard is the youngest daughter of Mrs. Meta G. Bullard, and the late Daniel Bullard, who settled in Virginia prior to the civil war. Though a native born Virginian, she comes from Puritan stock, uniting the energy and progressive traits of the Yankee with the warm-heartedness and generous impulsiveness of the south.

IN MEMORY OF THOMAS MOORE.

Artistic Celtic Cross Erected on His Grave in England.

London.—Recently in the churchyard of Bromham, Wiltshire, England, the Celtic cross shown in the illustration, which stands over the grave of Thomas Moore, the renowned Irish poet, was unveiled with imposing ceremonies. Thousands attended the ceremonies and green flags and scrolls bearing quotations from the "Irish Melodies" were abundantly in evidence. Among the speakers were Justin McCarthy and John Dillon, M. P

The Memorial to Moore.

Moore was born in Dublin on May 28, 1779, and died at Bromham on the 26th of February, 1852. His famous "Irish Melodies" were published between the years 1807 and 1834.

Progressive.

"I hear you've fired your old stenographer?"

"Yep."

"What for?"

"So I could employ a young one."—Houston Post.

Located.

"Did you hear that there was a skeleton in Jones' family?"

"You don't say so! Where?"

"Inside of Jones."—Milwaukee Sentinel

Unable to Specify.

Ruggles—How are the heating arrangements in your flat?

Ramage — Heating arrangements? There's a mitigating circumstance or two in the basement, I believe, but I don't know of anything as definite as an arrangement.—Chicago Tribune.

Brute.

Knicker—When do you take the heavy meal of the day?

Bocker—When my wife cooks it.—N. Y. Sun.

Lady Manners Born in Tent.

Her Engagement to Nephew of King Edward Is Denied.

El Paso, Tex.—Lady Marjorie Manners, whose reported betrothal to Prince Arthur, of Cannaught, nephew of King Edward, has been authorita-

Lady Marjorie Manners.

tively denied, was born in a tent in Las Vegas, N. M., 23 years ago.

Capt. John Manners, of the English army, now the duke of Rutland, was at that time in poor health. He obtained a furlough, and went to the dry climate of New Mexico to recuperate his failing strength. He was accompanied by his wife, who is remembered as a beautiful woman of most charming and simple ways. Unlike most English health-seekers, Capt. and Mrs. Manners did not travel with a retinue of servants. In fact, they were unaccompanied by any person.

The first thing Capt. Manners did when he arrived at Las Vegas was to buy an ordinary camping tent, which he put up with his own hands on a vacant lot near the old Montezuma hotel. The tent was furnished with cots and a few rough cooking utensils, and a dry goods box for a table. Thus the couple lived for several months.

It was in this tent that a pretty girl baby was born. It was a cold, stormy day, December 20, that marked the event.

In those days Las Vegas still possessed the rough, hospitable spirit of the west. The Manners' baby was the talk of the town. It was the pet of the men, and the adored one of the women. She was a beautiful little bit of humanity. The proud mother and the precious infant were showered with attentions.

The fact that the piercing wind which blew over the mesa crept through the tent and over the cot where the mother and babe were lying awakened a fear that the exposure might not be good for them. But they thrived under the influence of the pure air.

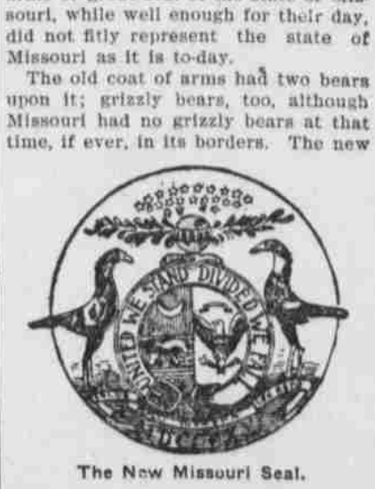
Old Juanita Rergo, the Mexican woman who nursed Mrs. Manners through that trying period, is still living at Las Vegas.

HENS ON MISSOURI'S SEAL.

Poultry Association Plans to Honor the Humble Fowl.

Columbia, Mo.—Missouri has a new coat of arms. The state has been provided with a new seal. The Missouri Poultry association has decided that the sturdy whig, George Burckhartt, who suggested, and the first general assembly which adopted the coat of arms or great seal of the state of Missouri, while well enough for their day, did not fitly represent the state of Missouri as it is to-day.

The old coat of arms had two bears upon it; grizzly bears, too, although Missouri had no grizzly bears at that time, if ever, in its borders. The new



The New Missouri Seal.

coat of arms, which the Missouri Poultry association has adopted for its own use and proposes for adoption by the state at large as the great seal, has upon it, instead of the antiquated and anachronistic bears, two chickens. Otherwise it would remain unchanged. The poultry association seal was the suggestion of Charles G. Miller of Boonville, a poultry grower and officer of the association.

It first appeared upon the official stationery and ribbons of the state show given at Fayette in Howard county, where, by curious coincidence, formerly resided the designer of the state seal, where his near kinsman, Henry T. Burkhartt, is the editor of a newspaper. Harry P. Mason, chicken grower, also is an editor there.